

Message Text

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12

ACTION COA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 L-03 AF-10 ARA-16 NEA-14

RSC-01 IO-14 SCI-06 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 COME-00

CEQ-02 INT-08 DLOS-07 SMI-01 DODE-00 DRC-01 /132 W

----- 116417

R 210759Z JUN 74 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3471

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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LONDON PASS USDEL IWC MEETING

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, TBIO, AS

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL WHALING COMMISSION: GOA POSITION

REF: (A) CANBERRA 3723; (B) CANBERRA 3670

1. HUMPHREYS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, DFA, CALLED EMBASSY JUNE 21 TO CONFIRM FINAL POSITION ON WHALING MORATORIUM PROPOSAL ADOPTED BY PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM AS DESCRIBED PARA 1 REF (A). UNDER THIS POSITION GOA WILL OPPOSE TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM BUT IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT AUTOMATIC MORATORIUM FORMULA.

2. RECOGNIZING DIFFICULTIES FACING ANY REVISION GOA POSITION IN VIEW PRIME MINISTER'S EARLIER DECISION, EMBOFF DID URGE DFA FURTHER REVIEW POSSIBILITY AS TACTICAL MATTER OF SUPPORTING TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM, CONSISTENT WITH AUSTRALIAN FAVORABLE VOTE IN 1973, THEREBY AVOIDING APPEARANCE OF EROSION OF SUPPORT
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FOR TEN-YEAR PROPOSAL. WHILE THIS WOULD NOT AFFECT

FINAL OUTCOME ON TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM, SINCE EVEN WITH AUSTRALIAN SUPPORT IT WOULD NOT COMMAND MAJORITY REQUIRED FOR ADOPTION, IT WOULD REDUCE THE LIKELIHOOD THAT EROSION OF SUPPORT FOR TEN-YEAR FORMULA WOULD ENCOURAGE OPPONENTS OF AUTOMATIC SELECTIVE MORATORIUM PROPOSAL TO INCREASE THEIR RESISTANCE TO LATTER. HUMPHREYS AGREED TO MAKE FURTHER REVIEW OF THIS TACTICAL POSSIBILITY, ALTHOUGH OFFERING NO ENCOURAGEMENT RE OUTCOME.

3. GIVEN LATE STAGE OF TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING, ASIDE FROM FIRM PRIME MINISTERIAL DECISION PERVIOUSLY REACHED, EMBASSY VERY DOUBTFUL THAT FURTHER REVIEW WILL AFFECT GOA POSITION ON TEN-YEAR MORATORIUM. NEVERTHELESS, WE VIEWED THIS FINAL EFFORT AS DESIRABLE IN ORDER MAINTAIN U.S. PRESSURE AND CONCEIVABLY OF SOME VALUE IN CONNECTION FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS THIS SUBJECT.
GREEN

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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